

## President Bush's Historic Investment in Education

### *2006 Budget Good News for American Samoa's Children*

The U.S. Department of Education's FY 2006 budget provides \$56 billion in Federal education funding—an increase of 33 percent since the President took office. Despite all the priorities competing for our tax dollars—strengthening our economy and defending our Nation—the FY 2006 budget reflects the President's strong commitment to education.

### Highlights of the FY 2006 Budget

- ❖ **Title I Program funding increases to \$13.3 billion** for students in high-poverty schools. This is a 52 percent increase over 2001 levels.
- ❖ **Special Education Grants to States Program receives a record \$11.1 billion.** This is a 75 percent increase over the funding level when the President took office and the highest level of Federal support ever provided for children with disabilities.
- ❖ **Pell Grant Program receives \$13.7 billion** to support 5.5 million needy recipients in the 2006-2007 school year. Since President Bush took office, the number of Pell Grant recipients has grown by more than one million students. Included in this increase is the President's \$33 million request for new **Enhanced Pell Grants for State Scholars** to provide up to an additional \$1,000 for freshmen who took challenging courses in high school.
- ❖ **High School Initiative receives \$1.5 billion**, including \$1.24 billion for a new High School Intervention program focused on strengthening education for at-risk high school students, and \$250 million to help states develop and implement new High School Assessments in reading/language arts and mathematics.
- ❖ **Reading funding increases to a total \$1.3 billion**, including \$1 billion for the Reading First program, \$104 million for Early Reading First programs, and \$200 million for the Striving Readers program to meet the President's goal of ensuring every child can read on grade level.
- ❖ **Choice and options for students and parents expand to \$332 million**—an additional \$52 million—to empower families to find schools that best meet the needs of children who most need help.
- ❖ **Teachers receive \$5.2 billion** in support through training, recruitment, incentives, loan forgiveness and tax relief, up from \$4.8 billion in 2005.
- ❖ **State accountability systems receive \$412 million** to support state assessments required by *No Child Left Behind* in grades 3 through 8, which provide vital information to ensure each child is achieving on grade level.
- ❖ **English language acquisition receives \$676 million** to support children who are still learning the English language so they can achieve their full potential in school and in life.

### How the President's Budget Will Help American Samoa's Children and Families

- ❖ Increases Federal education funding in American Samoa to \$29.5 million—52.2 percent more than when the President took office.
- ❖ Provides \$18.6 million to help American Samoa implement the reforms of *No Child Left Behind*.
- ❖ Increases Title I funding to \$8.9 million—\$2.9 million over 2001 levels—to help American Samoa's neediest children.
- ❖ Increases Special Education Grants for American Samoa to \$6.8 million—\$1.1 million over 2001 levels.
- ❖ Provides \$2.7 million in Federal Pell Grants to help ensure a college education for American Samoa students who otherwise might not be able to afford one.
- ❖ Provides \$893 million to ensure that every high school student in American Samoa graduates with the skills needed to succeed in college and in the globally competitive workforce.
- ❖ Provides access to \$1.7 million in Reading First funding to ensure that every child in American Samoa learns to read by the third grade.
- ❖ Provides \$3.5 million to attract and retain highly qualified teachers in American Samoa classrooms.
- ❖ Provides \$379 thousand for annual assessments so every mom and dad in American Samoa will know how well their children are learning and where they need improvement.
- ❖ Provides \$1.2 million to support students in American Samoa who are learning the English language.